



Wednesday
JANUARY 18, 2012

★ FREE ★
A Chicago Tribune publication

BRIDGEPORT BEATING GOES VIRAL

ONLINE REACTION ARRIVES SWIFTLY
IN WAKE OF BRUTAL ATTACK ON TEEN 3



Police are investigating
the videotaped beating of a
17-year-old boy (in red pants) who
was attacked in Bridgeport.

YOUTUBE SCREEN GRAB

Wikipedia pulls
plug in protest **8**

Bulls still lack
R-E-S-P-E-C-T **11**

SKETCH-LANDIA **16-17**



EAT

GET CHEESY

The Anthem 1725 W. Division St. 773-697-4804
Nosh on a Velveeta-stuffed Juicy Lucy burger (\$10) or braised pork belly sliders (\$4 each) at this retro sports bar and cheer on the Blackhawks, whose game against the Buffalo Sabres will be on two giant projector screens and four 50-inch TVs. 6:30 p.m.



DRINK

STYLISH SIPS

Le Bar
20 E. Chestnut St.
312-324-4000

Swank up your Hump Day at the Champagne Chic Bubbles and Bites after-work mixer in the Sofitel lounge, where \$10 gets you a champagne cocktail mixed with mango tequila, vanilla rum or other spirits or bites such as mini-burgers, tuna tartare or cake pops. 5-8 p.m. No cover. RSVP recommended: ceceandmelinda.com.

ALES AND TALES

Black Rock
3614 N. Damen Ave.
773-348-4044

Get \$3.50 microbrews and \$5 burgers at the first anniversary show of Story Lab Chicago, a monthly storytelling series for emerging writers. Want to try it out yourself? Check in with host Scott Whitehair to book a future night. 7:30 p.m. No cover.

DO

OFFICE HUMOR

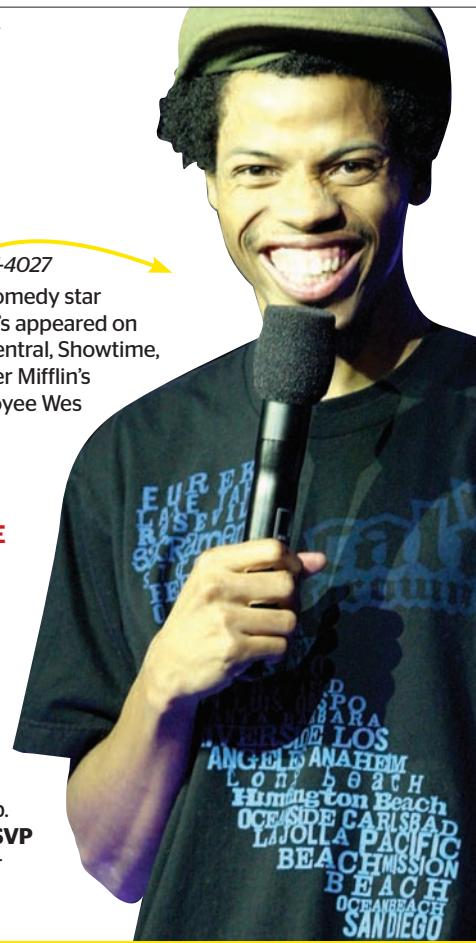
Zanies
1548 N. Wells St. 312-337-4027

Catch a set by rising comedy star **Mike E. Winfield**, who's appeared on Letterman, Comedy Central, Showtime, BET and now as Dunder Mifflin's new warehouse employee Wes on "The Office." 8:30 p.m. \$25 plus a two-drink minimum.

FREE GIRLS RULE

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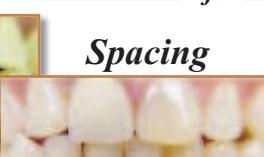
Dance till you drop at Intensity! where an all-female local DJ lineup takes over the turntables at the venerable indie music club. 9:30 p.m. **Free with RSVP** (emptybottle.com) or \$5-\$7 without.

**REDEYE TIP OF THE DAY**

RSVP now for the five-course Friday Evening Spirits tasting menu with Great Lakes beer pairings at 2 Sparrows. 773-234-2320.

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WHEN VIOLENCE GOES VIRAL

VIDEO OF BRUTAL BRIDGEPORT BEATING HIGHLIGHTS DISTURBING SIDE OF A WIRED WORLD

Chicago Tribune

Video of a 17-year-old being kicked and punched repeatedly in a snow-covered alley in Armour Square near Bridgeport grew into a viral Internet sensation, sparking a web of online commentary that highlighted the awkward and often-disturbing unraveling of youthful conflicts in a wired world.

By Tuesday evening, a Facebook page condemning the attack had been created and “liked” by more than 5,000 people, many leaving vitriolic posts about how justice should be meted out on the attackers. The beating is just the latest of many acts, from simply boneheaded to clearly criminal, that youths have found worthy of recording and posting to a wider audience.

“Today our young people are experiencing this idea that unless their behavior is shared with the rest of the group, it doesn’t really count as something that happened,” said Glenn Sparks, a communications professor at Purdue University who studies the effects of mass media on people.

Investigators on Tuesday were questioning at least six teenagers. In the video, the attackers use several racial epithets while beating the young man, but police said the beating was not racially motivated.

The victim, a senior at Curie Metro High School on the Southwest Side, was taken to Mercy Hospital and Medical Center, where he was treated for bruises, abrasions and a laceration to his lip.

The video—posted on YouTube, and shown on this page in screen grabs—shows what appears to be six boys or young men

punching and kicking the victim in the head, legs and back as he pleads for them to stop. The beating continues for several minutes, with one of the attackers taking shoes out of the victim’s backpack then dangling one of them in front of his face in a taunting manner.

Police said the attackers took the victim’s wallet and \$180 in cash, as well as the shoes.

Throughout the day, people claiming to know the youths involved in the attack posted boasts and condemnations, along with crisscrossing theories on the assailants’ motives.

One young woman posted a rambling, four-and-a-half-minute YouTube video of her own saying: “I know what they did is wrong. ... Regardless of the fact that it was wrong of them to do so, they had their reasons to go after him.”

Sparks said the public outpouring of emotion and outrage, as well as the decision by someone to post the violent act online, demonstrates how many young people have come to believe that all actions are worthy of dissemination.

“In the electronic age, the idea that we can share information instantaneously really transforms our basic identity from a private person to a more corporate person, a person who is a part of a group,” Sparks said.

“In order to be significant, the behavior has to be out there and readily available for everyone to have access to.”

Alan Krok, a veteran Chicago police detective, said videotaping a beating like the one in Armour Square demonstrates how ignorant young people can be about the consequences of their actions.

“Everybody sees it. That’s the evidence,” said Krok, who is not investigating the beating but speaks to high school and elementary school students across the city about crimes that are captured on video. “When it hits YouTube, [the youths involved in the crimes] don’t think the whole thing through.”

But some, he said, videotape their crimes for competition and bragging rights: “It’s kind of like an empowerment—‘Here’s proof that we’re tough guys.’”

Attackers who upload leave evidence

Chicago Tribune

This week’s incident is not the first time the posting of violent video online has led to police action.

Last fall, a Chicago teenager was arrested on aggravated battery charges after a video surfaced of him punching a 56-year-old homeless man at a CTA Red Line stop more than six months earlier. Scotty Strahan, then 18, approached the man at the Chicago Avenue “L” stop in April and punched him in the face while friends filmed the attack, according to police.

The recording was posted to the Internet in November, prompting investigators to find the homeless man, who then signed a criminal complaint. Strahan eventually turned himself in to police.

Also in Chicago, Fenger High School drew international attention after the beating death of an honor roll student, 16-year-old Derrion Albert, was captured on video during a melee near the school in 2009. Five assailants went to prison—for lengthy sentences—for that attack.

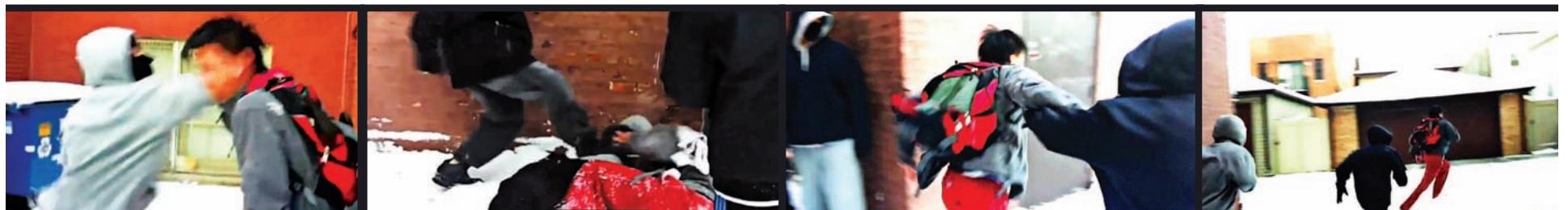
In Wall Township, N.J., not far from the Jersey Shore, two people were arrested last month after police were tipped to YouTube videos showing a homeless man being beaten in mid-December.

In the videos, 50-year-old David Ivins is punched and kicked by a man who police—with the help of the online images—identified as 20-year-old Taylor Giresi.

Wall Township Lt. Walt Pomphrey said when they went to question Giresi, a juvenile he was with admitted recording the attacks on a cellphone.

“It was good for us,” Pomphrey said of the recording, explaining that without it, police might not have identified a suspect so soon.

In Franklin, Mass., last month, an online video showing a Dean College student being beaten led to the expulsion of nine students.



Hold that angry Spotify tweet ...



Jessica Galliart

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» [@redeyechicago](http://redeyechicago)

Party's over, kids.

For the past six months, Americans have been bathing in the luxury that is Spotify, the free music streaming service that started in the U.K. and teamed up with Facebook to probably forever change the way we share and experience music on the Web.

Like most free rides, the "free"

part is about to be phased out. The deal, for anyone who didn't read the fine print, is good for only six months before Spotify demands a paid subscription for unlimited usage.

Bummer, right? But before anyone decides to launch an Occupy Spotify tent party, hear me out: The \$9.99 unlimited subscription, which includes full usage on your mobile device, is absolutely worth it.

I should clarify that I'm the cheapest SOB you'll ever meet. If there's free food in the building, I will devour it. If it's on clearance and I might need it at some point, I'm buying it. If you have a washing machine or space-age cable in your apartment, I'm probably offering to scrub your floors so I can use it (tweet me if you'd like to take me up on this).

I will do whatever I can to avoid paying for something, and that includes my media. So if music lovers like me aren't willing to pay for Spotify, what other options are out there?

Grooveshark (a similar free streaming service that is being sued by major labels) doesn't offer the effortless sharing Spotify does; Pandora wears out its welcome with the first play of a country song when you've been listening to dubstep; and Rhapsody has

a few too many Rick Santorum ads for my taste.

The closest you'll get to a Spotify experience is Rdio, which also is integrated with Facebook, but it too has limits on how many songs you can listen to within a 30-day period (basically the restrictions that soon will be placed on free Spotify subscribers).

Even if there were other acceptable options, Spotify has become such a staple in everyday life that I wouldn't be willing to switch for the sake of saving \$10 (which is a lot of money to a brokeass like me, mind you).

If it weren't for Spotify, I wouldn't have been inspired to start a self-improvement project asking friends to send me one artist everyone must listen to—which takes about five seconds and two mouse clicks to do—and I'm positive I wouldn't have gotten around to finally listening to Elvis Costello, per a friend's suggestion. And on the flip side, I wouldn't have discovered how serious my edgy co-worker is about her not-so-secret love for Brad Paisley and country music, or how talented a faraway friend has become at creating "mom-banging" playlists that now help me get through the workday.

I don't subscribe to the belief that digital music can't be free and still be profitable. Or even that digital news can't be profitable—hello, I work for a free newspaper that is about to celebrate its 10th birthday. But with our options for smart, social streaming music services dwindling, it's important to recognize that what Spotify is doing is probably the biggest accomplishment in making music social since the introduction of MySpace.

So if there's one thing to stop being a cheapass about, it's this. Let's untwist our panties, get on the bandwagon and just pay up already.

JESSICA GALLIART IS REDEYE'S SOCIAL MEDIA LADY.

“ Spotify has become such a staple in everyday life that I wouldn't be willing to switch for the sake of saving \$10.”



THE BIG TALKER

Police were questioning six youths Tuesday about the beating and kicking of a 17-year-old boy in a Bridgeport alley that was captured on video and posted on the Internet. As the graphic, violent video went viral, RedEye asked Facebook fans and Twitter followers how they felt about watching such content themselves.

TWITTER

@JustJoshBlue: I watched, but I couldn't get all the way through it. Made me ill

@RiotOfWords: Not really, I prefer my violence to stay in my horror movies.

@ChicagoDiane: Absolutely not. Just hearing about them is disturbing enough....

@gonzalodelrio: Appalled. Yet, can't look away.

FACEBOOK

Phil Melcher: I don't need to see the video. An assault is an assault and unfortunately it happens way too often around here.

Hilary Jurinak: I can't watch them—hearing other peoples reactions about them is enough!

Vanessa Luis: It personally makes me sick and angry that someone can sit there and video tape this and think its funny.

Yolanda Correa: I don't watch them. Hearing the descriptions on the news is enough for me.

Rick Martinez: I choose not to watch because I know how disgusting the world can be and I don't need another reminder of it.



YOU WON! YOU WON!

As a way of celebrating the end of her 139-bus journey across Chicago, RedEye reporter Tracy Swartz on Tuesday offered up a \$139 CTA card to the 139th person to tweet her their favorite bus route. Congrats to the winner, **@taylorlyall**, who said "65 Grand is my favorite!"

» Follow **@tracyswartz** on Twitter for the latest in CTA news.

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TRIBUNE FILE

\$1 more to flag cab?

Council to vote on plan that would make fuel charge permanent

Chicago Tribune

Mayor Emanuel's administration compromised on a taxi industry regulation plan Tuesday, putting forward a package officials said would improve the safety of Chicago's cab fleet while easing the burden on taxi companies to comply with new standards.

More than a dozen cabdrivers turned up at City Hall to speak against the plan, which the License and Consumer Protection Committee sent to the full City Council.

The administration's proposal would make permanent a \$1 fuel surcharge that has been added to the cost of a cab ride for the past two years because of high gas prices. Under the plan, a single passenger would be charged \$3.25 when the cabbie starts the meter.

The revised package also would phase in mileage standards meant to prevent old beater cars from being introduced to Chicago streets as cabs. An odometer ceiling of 75,000 miles for new taxis wouldn't take effect until 2014.

Rosemary Krimbel, the city's commissioner of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection, said controlling the age and condition of Chicago cabs is critical, but acknowledged cab companies need time to "ramp up" to the new standards.

"This phase-in will take effect, giving the industry time to accustom themselves to this new rule, because it is dramatically different," Krimbel said.

The proposed ordinance also would require cab company operators to carry a \$200,000 bond, down from \$1 million in the initial proposal. Currently, operators must have a \$100,000 bond.

Members of the Emanuel administration worked with lobbyists representing the cab in-

dustry and sponsoring Ald. Anthony Beale (9th) until Tuesday morning to come up with a compromise plan, which goes before the full City Council on Wednesday.

Ald. Robert Fioretti (2nd) and some other members of the committee voted against the plan, arguing they should have more time to read it and listen to concerns from cabdrivers before the council takes action.

Drivers complained about a provision that increases the cost to lease cabs. Krimbel said incentives for taxi companies to introduce more fuel-efficient cars into their fleets will allow the drivers to make back the added cost by saving on gas, but several drivers expressed skepticism.

Another unpopular part of the proposed ordinance, which has been under discussion for months, is a requirement that cabbies drive no more than 12 hours in a day. While Krimbel said that will increase safety by forcing drivers to take breaks, several cabbies said the policy is misguided.

THE DIGIT
\$25 to \$500

Those are the fines for resisting arrest in Chicago. Mayor Emanuel on Tuesday backed off a plan to increase them during this spring's G-8 and NATO conferences after aldermen and protesters expressed concerns that it would curb free speech. The mayor had proposed doubling the maximum fine to \$1,000. **TRIBUNE**

M-Rahm announces new 'L' stop

By Tracy Swartz

REDEYE

Design work on a new Green Line station at Cermak Road and State Street is set to begin in March, Mayor Emanuel announced Tuesday.

Construction on the station is slated to start in February 2013 and last through July 2014. The station, which is expected to cost \$50 million, is designed to give easy access to McCormick Place, Emanuel said.

As of now, only the No. 3-King Drive, No. 21-Cermak and No. 129-West Loop/South Loop buses stop at McCormick Place.

The new Green Line station is expected to have access for people with disabilities and canopy coverage on the platform.

Emanuel made the announcement Tuesday at the Grand Red Line stop, which recently saw a facelift that included new elevators to make the station accessible for people with disabilities, an expanded mezzanine and new escalators.

"I'm pleased we are making this type of investment," Emanuel said. **TSWARTZ@TRIBUNE.COM**

EXPRESS LINES

» A man fatally shot his girlfriend, her two sons and niece as they slept in their beds early Tuesday morning, then set their suburban Villa Park home on fire before driving to his parents' home, where he killed himself, officials said. The full story is at chicagotribune.com.

» A City Council committee on Tuesday recommended paying \$525,000 to settle a lawsuit filed on behalf of an autistic boy whom police allegedly chased and clubbed for no reason at his family's Little Village restaurant.

» A safe was taken from a Dunkin' Donuts store in an apparent overnight burglary in the Loop, officials said. The incident occurred in the 100 block of West Madison Street shortly before 5:30 a.m. Tuesday. **TRIBUNE**



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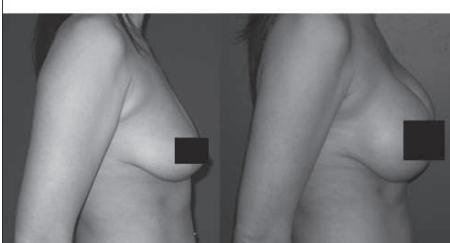
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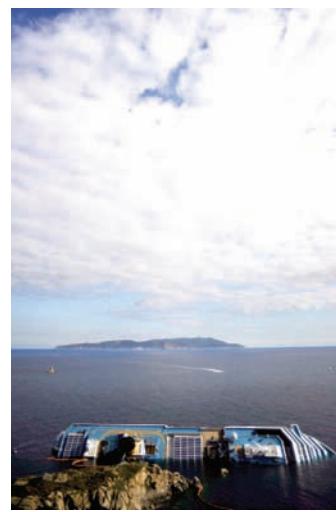
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GETTY IMAGES

**1 5 more bodies
found on ship**

The Italian coast guard pleaded angrily with the captain of a stricken super-liner to return to his ship, according to recordings released Tuesday as divers found five more bodies in the half-submerged wreck of the Costa Concordia. The discoveries took the known death toll to 11.

**2 Iraq vet charged in
homeless slayings**

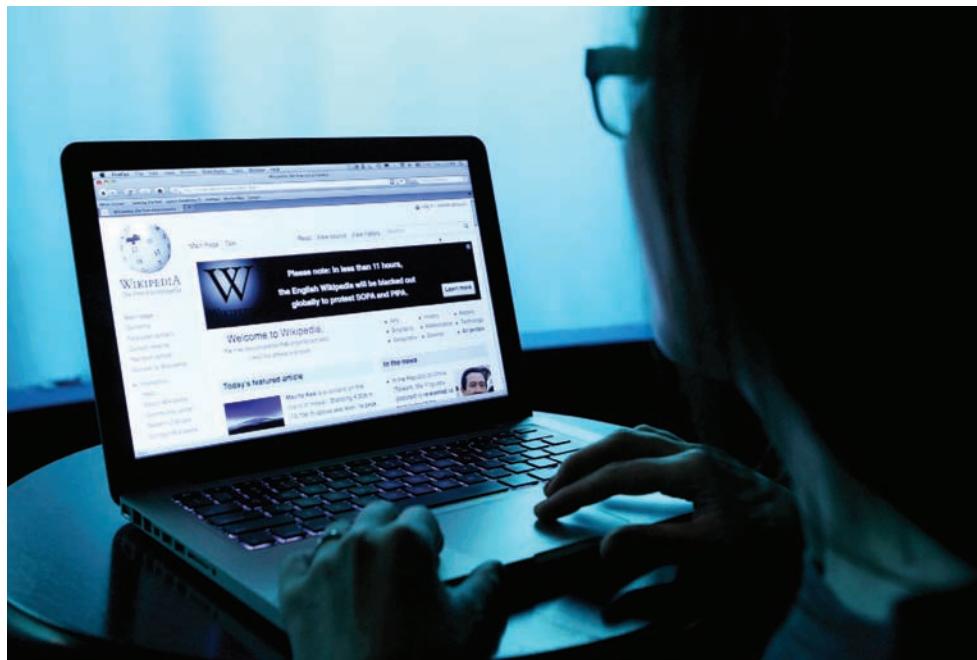
An Iraq war veteran accused of killing four homeless men by stabbing them dozens of times each was charged Tuesday with first degree murder in Orange County, Calif. Former Marine Itzcoatl Ocampo, 23, was charged with four counts of first degree murder, Orange County District Attorney Tony Rackauckas said.

**3 Gunman faces
attempted
assassination charge**

Oscar Ortega-Hernandez, a 21-year-old Idaho man, was formally indicted Tuesday for attempting to assassinate President Obama and on other criminal charges after he allegedly opened fire on the White House in November.

THE DIGIT

4 The U.S. on Tuesday announced a ban on four types of exotic snakes: the Burmese python, the yellow anaconda and northern and southern African pythons. The ban will make it illegal to import the snakes or transport them across state lines. The Burmese python in particular has become one of the most notorious invasive species in U.S. history.



Wikipedia will black out its English-language site for 24 hours on Wednesday to seek support against proposed anti-piracy legislation. **REUTERS**

Pirates and protests

Websites going dark as battle over intellectual property bills rages

4 LOS ANGELES Most people probably haven't paid much attention to the huge corporations waging war in Washington over legislation designed to crack down on online theft of movies, music and other content. But the conflict will hit consumers in the face Wednesday, when Wikipedia and several other websites intend to go dark to protest the proposed changes.

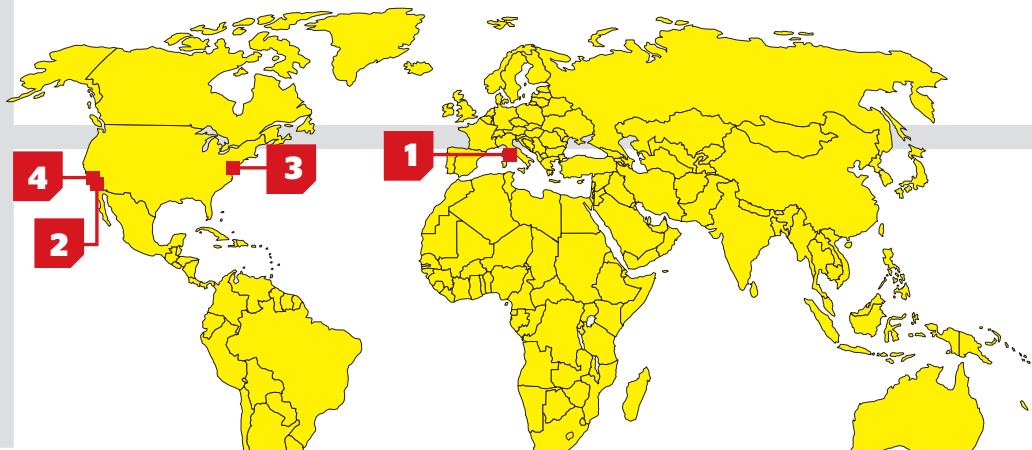
Wikipedia founder Jimmy Wales announced Monday that the online encyclopedia would be unavailable for 24 hours to protest the Stop Online Piracy Act and related legislation, which opponents say could lead to censorship or the complete shutdown of some websites.

Wikipedia plans to join Reddit, Boing Boing

and hundreds of other sites in the so-called SOPA Strike, an attempt to publicize their complaints about proposals supported by the movie and music industries and other media companies.

The Motion Picture Association of America and others driving the legislation said real progress had been made toward creating a law that would protect intellectual property. The advocates said misinformation is inflaming passions on the Web while doing nothing to solve the problem of piracy.

Internet companies have said the proposed legislation—SOPA in the House and the Protect Intellectual Property Act in the Senate—would allow operators no real due process before government actions could be taken against them. They said the result would be censorship and a strangling of the free flow of information that represents the soul of Web freedom.



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sports

Joakim Noah celebrates after scoring a basket Tuesday.

CHRIS SWEDA/TRIBUNE



BULLS 118, PHOENIX 97

GAME CHANGER

BULLS OVERLOOKED IN SURVEY, SO THEY TOOK IT OUT ON PHOENIX

RedEye

The NBA does this thing every year in which the league's general managers answer questions about the season at hand. It's called—drumroll please—the GM Survey.

The results of the 2011-12 version were released Tuesday, and they probably won't please Bulls fans—or players. Although Derrick Rose (best point guard) and the Bulls D (best in the league) got some love from the GMs, the Miami Heat was the team most GMs (74.1 percent) think will win the NBA title.

Ouch.

Maybe the Bulls can use the results of the survey to inspire them. Let's take some of the categories in which the Bulls were overlooked and see if they started to prove those oh-so-smart GMs wrong Tuesday against Phoenix.

Which team will win the Eastern Conference?

Miami: 96.3 percent
Even without Derrick Rose (out with a big toe sprain) for a few games, the Bulls are the first team to reach 13 wins—and they looked absolutely devastating Tuesday in a 118-97 dismantling of Phoenix.

Which team will be most improved in 2010-11?

L.A. Clippers: 66.7 percent
The Bulls had the NBA's best record last season, so it'll be hard to top that. But the Bulls are basically the same team, with an upgrade at shooting guard with Richard Hamilton (17.6 ppg. career average) in and Keith Bogans (6.7 ppg. career average) out.

Who is the best international player in the NBA?

Dirk Nowitzki: 96.4 percent
Luol Deng, of South Sudan and a naturalized British citizen, should have something to say about this. He's putting together another

solid season, averaging 15.3 points and 7.5 rebounds heading into Tuesday's game. He was right there Tuesday, with 15 points, six rebounds and three assists.

What was the most underrated player acquisition?

Brandon Bass, Boston; David West, Indiana: 15.4 percent
Hamilton has been hurt, sure, but when he's healthy, the Bulls look like a different team with him on the court. He can create his own shot, is adept at finding the open man and moves without the ball. Plus, he's not Bogans.

Which team has the best home-court advantage?

Oklahoma City: 44.4 percent
That's funny. The Thunder already have lost a game at home, but the Bulls have not (they are 6-0 at the United Center). On Tuesday, it wasn't even close, as the Bulls put the game away in the first half, leading by 20.

An Andrew Shaw ode



Shaw so hard Shanahan wanna fine him

First someone gotta stop 'em

What's 50 goals to a center like him

Can you please remind me?

Shaw so hard This is crazy

Y'all know he got four goals in seven games

The Hawks could go 0-82 and he still in the Hall of Fame

Shaw so hard, This is weird
He ain't even 'po be here, Shaw so hard, Since he here
It's only right that we be fair
Not cocky, he's liable to go Bobby
Take your pick: Hull, Probert, Orr, Game 4
Shaw so hard
Got a hard shot, ain't afraid to get down and block

No stranger to the penalty box,
Shaw so hard
I'm shocked too
He's supposed to be in Rockford, true
If you played like he's played
You'd be in Chicago getting called up too
Shaw so hard
Can't even shave,
Just might let you meet Emery,
Hockey's D-Rose, even on the PK
Shaw so hard Shanahan wanna fine him
That hit cray (x6)

She said can we get his jersey at the mall?
I said they probably sold out till fall

Already better than Eric Stall
Gonna be around for the long haul
Shaw so hard
That hit cray, ain't it Ray?

Shaw so hard
See that goal against San Jose?
Shaw so hard

20 years old, no big thing
Shaw so hard
Don't act like he couldn't take Darcy
Tucker in a fight again
I'm just sayin'

Stan Bowman doin' it right if you ask me
'Cause if I was him I wouldn't trade Shaw for Malkin and Crosby

Analysts say he's the best
More talented than Kanye West
On the team in Chicago
And because of Carcillo, huh?
You are now watching Shaw own
Don't let him into your zone
He's definitely in your zone

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Caped White Sox crusader



Brad Zibung
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1 What is it about Andrew Shaw that excites Blackhawks fans so much?

Everyone likes the center ... of attention.

His big, throbbing ... aw hell, I can't lie. I don't know who that is.

His boyish good looks? Oh, and the goals.

He's hockey's version of Tim Tebow, except he's got the skills to actually be a star.

They can't wait to party with him when he turns 21 this summer.

2 If Derrick Rose does not make the men's Olympic team ...

... it will be an alley-oops.

... then we're no better than Guatemala. There, I said it.

... human sacrifice, dogs and cats living together ... mass hysteria!

... I wouldn't be surprised. If "the decision" is LeBron's, it won't favor Chicago.

... good. He could use the rest. Plus the Olympics are a scam and D-Rose was already involved in one of those.

3 Diagnose Joakim Noah's basketball problem this season.

It could be the lockout; it could be the locks out.

Have I worn out the University of Florida bashing yet? No? Didn't think so.

He seems to be having trouble rebounding. Also, running and jumping and shooting.

He has Noah idea where he fits into the scheme yet. I know he'll rebound.

Too much Booze(r).

4 What are the chances this is the year Northwestern finally makes the NCAA tourney?

Pretty good if calculating chances is part of the test. They Excel at that.

I'm all for it. Can you imagine the riots? North Face and Kierkegaard books everywhere!

Pretty good, if the selection committee picks all 12 Big Ten teams!

As good as a wildcat meows. They have the purrrfect opportunity this year.

Has it been expanded to 150 teams yet? If not, then no.

5 Riding all 139 CTA bus lines like Tracy did is like ...

... a touchy subject.

... drinking every whiskey on the wall at Delilah's ... wait, that gives me an idea.

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... something the head of the CTA will do once he rides approximately 138 more bus lines.



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JERSEY BUYS

Quaker's got the Fire's back—and front—so now's the perfect time for other Chicago teams to cash in

RedEye

If the Fire don't have MLS opponents quaking in their cleats this season, at least they'll have Quaker on their jerseys. On Tuesday, the team announced that Quaker Oats Co. will sponsor players' jerseys in the coming season. The deal could be worth up to \$8 million for the Fire, according to Crain's Chicago Business. With that kind of money at stake, maybe other Chicago sports teams should have their game-day jerseys/uniforms/sweaters sponsored. These companies and products would be perfect for the city's other teams.



**Well, the nerve
of some people**
Everybody's least-favorite Miami Heat player, LeBron James, is hosting an All-Star weekend party in Orlando called "Undisputed 2012" on Feb. 25 in Orlando. That's fine, but on the promotion poster, he's billed as "The world's #1 basketball player." Did he win a title last year or something? Was he named MVP? Didn't think so.

Blackhawks' Carcillo goes under the knife

Blackhawks tough guy Dan Carcillo underwent successful knee surgery Tuesday, the team said. "The procedure went very well and he will begin rehabilitation [Tuesday] afternoon," head team physician Dr. Michael Terry said. "We anticipate a full recovery with him returning to competitive hockey in six months." Get well soon, Carbomb.

THE FINISH LINE

» Georgetown 83, DePaul 75

» Indianapolis Colts fire coach Jim Caldwell.



BEARS

NyQuil

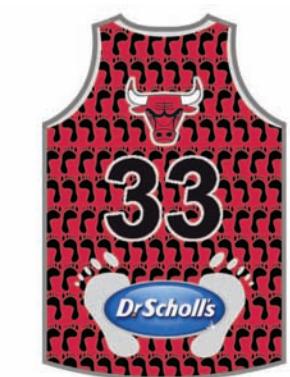
Coach Lovie Smith already does commercials for the product, so why not expand the relationship. The Bears do make their fans sick quite often, after all.



BLACKHAWKS

Korbel champagne

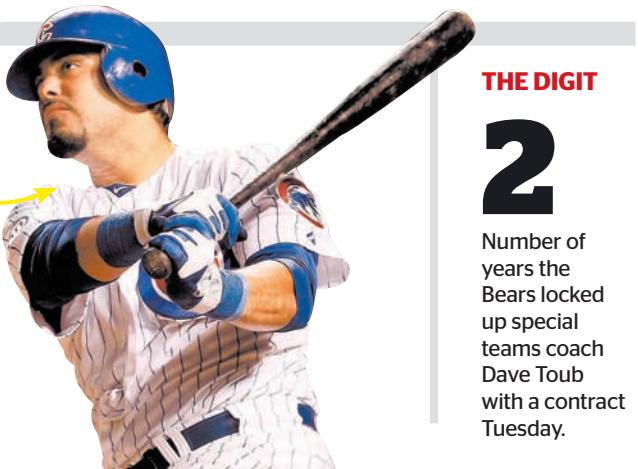
The Blackhawks are looking like a Stanley Cup winner again. They should get ahead of the game and make this relationship official—just in case they're celebrating in June.



BULLS

Dr. Scholl's

With Derrick Rose out with a toe injury, now's the time for the team to bring in the maker of foot-care products—STAT!



Soto, Cubs reach \$4.3 million deal

Cubs catcher Geovany Soto got a nice little raise Tuesday. Soto and the Cubs agreed to a \$4.3 million contract—he made \$3 million last season—Tuesday, avoiding arbitration. That's what 17 homers, 54 RBIs, a .228 average and a .348 on-base percentage get you.



CUBS

Starbucks

Imagine the series of commercials playing off a fan spotting Theo Epstein in a Wrigleyville Starbucks before his signing was announced. The first one would feature Starlin Castro fumbling his coffee on an unsuspecting bro.



WHITE SOX

Facebook

With a rebuilding project taking place on the South Side, there are a lot of new faces and friends you'll need to get to know—and like and dislike and unfriend ...

BULLS

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With Derrick Rose out with a toe injury, now's the time for the team to bring in the maker of foot-care products—STAT!

THE DIGIT

2

Number of years the Bears locked up special teams coach Dave Toub with a contract Tuesday.

» Report: Orlando Magic center Dwight Howard adds L.A. Clippers to trade wish list.

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trending

‘Portlandia’ hits Chicago

By Julia Borcherts

FOR REDEYE

Fred Armisen and Carrie Brownstein are in the midst of a nationwide tour to promote Season 2 of this hit IFC sketch comedy series, “Portlandia.” On Wednesday, they’ll be in Chicago for a sold-out show at the Hideout to play music, screen sneak-peek clips from Season 2 and share anecdotes about the series and the various characters they’ve created. RedEye chatted with the duo during a conference call with reporters.

What was the inspiration behind the tour? Did you want a direct audience connection?

Carrie Brownstein: That’s part of it. ... We really appreciate the direct connection that a live show brings with the audience and it’s kind of an earnest, palpable way of just relating to the people that watch what you do. With “Portlandia,” we’ve never really had the opportunity to visit with and spend an evening with some of the people that are enjoying the show. For us, it’s a natural extension of what we like to do anyway.

The Hideout is a perfect venue atmospherically but it sold out in a minute. Why didn’t you choose a larger venue?

Fred Armisen: We want it to feel kind of like you’re visiting us in a living room.

In “Portlandia,” a lot of the humor comes from these confused characters who are trying—but failing—to do the right thing. What are some of those situations like in real life for the two of you?

CB: I just feel constantly flummoxed in situations—the recycling one is definitely true for me. There are coffee shops here that break down the recycling and compost into five or six different categories and it really just brings out the contrarian in me where I just want to throw everything on the floor or in the trash. It’s very hard. I have a Whole Foods near my house and I do have a reusable bag but I always forget to bring it. Even though I should, like, not care and just get the paper bag, I end up buying another reusable bag and making a big performance thing out of it, like, “Hey, everybody, I’m buying another reusable bag.” So basically now I’m a hoarder of reusable bags because I just buy a new one every time I go. I feel like I’m constantly up against those kinds of things.

FA: For me, I always feel bad for people who are, like, cabdrivers. And it’s really dumb of me to feel bad for them—they’re apparently doing fine—but I always think, “I don’t want to pay with a credit card; I’ll pay cash because they probably could use the cash.” It’s this false sense of being responsible for everybody in the world and feeling bad for everyone, which is not even asked of me, you know? It also makes no sense. I mean, they have a credit card machine; it’s fine, but I always feel like, “Sorry, I hope you don’t mind if I use a credit card.” It’s just silliness.

“Portlandia” makes use of so many iconic Portland-area locations.

What are your favorite iconic Chicago locations?

FA: I would say the Rainbo. And that whole run along Milwaukee Avenue, right by Damen and North. There is something about that corner—that Flat Iron building and then the train tracks right next to it. That, to me, is iconic for Wicker Park and because of that, Chicago.



‘Portlandia’ stars Carrie Brownstein and Fred Armisen

FRED ARMISEN'S CHI-LANDIA

THERE'S A REASON 'PORTLANDIA' SEEMS STRANGELY LIKE WICKER PARK

Chicago Tribune

When comedian/musician Fred Armisen and musician/comedian Carrie Brownstein swing through Chicago on Wednesday for a sold-out show at the Hideout based on their hit IFC sketch series, "Portlandia," they'll be carrying serious baggage. Never mind, of course, the legacy of their day jobs—his as a cast member on "Saturday Night Live," which he joined in 2002, hers as the guitarist of Wild Flag, the power-pop group she formed in 2010, several years after the breakup of her previous group, the beloved Portland indie band Sleater-Kinney.

Consider their cultural baggage, too: the militant foodies, preening mixologists, blinkered animal-rights activists, hipster entrepreneurs and oversensitive bohos—the precious, upscale artisan urbanity—that "Portlandia," which began its second season Jan. 6, so knowingly sends up. Then consider why Armisen and Brownstein know this stuff so well.

In short, it takes a hipster to know a hipster. For Brownstein, 37, the roots "Portlandia" are traced to Olympia, Wash. But for Armisen, 45, his hipster past can be traced to Chicago, where he was a familiar figure on the music and art scene throughout the '90s, particularly around then-burgeoning Wicker Park.

"I lived [there] for a long time, surrounding myself with the things I loved," he said. "Basically, music and bands. Chicago then was like this embryonic version of 'Portlandia.' Though, no question, the show's informed by my time in Chicago."

Drawing from interviews conducted with Armisen and longtime friends, what follows is a truncated oral history of his Chicago years, roughly late 1988 to early 2000. (For the full history, go to redeyechicago.com.)

MUSICAL BEGINNINGS

Armisen grew up on Long Island and "dressed like a punk-rock kid, walking and hanging around and listening to The Clash and Run-DMC on a boombox and just getting constantly harassed by Long Island cops," childhood friend Wayne Montana said. Armisen said he decided to attend the School of the Visual Arts in New York City so he could find a band to join.

Armisen: At school I met this guy named Damon Locks. He wore a coat with the name of this great punk band The Damned spray-painted on the back. I remember thinking, "I want to be in a band with this guy."

Damon Locks, Chicago artist and co-founder of the band

The Eternals: We met in 1987 in art history, and the truth is he spotted me because I had spiky black and red dreadlocks. But I got into the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and moved here, so then Fred and Wayne just decided to move too.

Wayne Montana, Chicago musician and co-founder of The Eternals

This was 1988 and Damon was there for 10 days, then he called and said Chicago was "pretty cool." Which is funny, because that's all it hinged on. Fred and I packed a U-Haul and moved to Chicago. Later with Damon we started Trenchmouth. Fred was the drummer. But when we first got to Chicago, there was nothing, no scene, no unifying aesthetic. So, a few years later, Trenchmouth was like the old-school band.

Locks: It took years for the Wicker Park scene to happen. In the meantime, Trenchmouth formed its own scene, really. We played Art Institute parties, places like Club Dreamerz. We played this bowling alley on Fullerton, the Fireside Bowl, which was uncomfortable because we set up in the lanes. We shared the stage with Jesus Lizard and we got along with everyone, but because we signed to a label [Skene! Records, the early home of Green Day] in Minneapolis, I don't think we ever felt like a part of the Chicago music thing.

Armisen: I lived on Wolcott, on Division. I remember Tortoise had this loft where they would record and I loved that I became part of that scene, not the Cubs scene. ... [Musician/producer] Steve Albini became a huge influence on me, which I don't know if he knows. ... I started to work at Lounge Ax, too. [Owner] Sue Miller was my boss, which is how I got to know Jeff [Tweedy, Miller's husband, the leader of Wilco]. I stamped hands, answered the phones.



Steve Albini: Yeah, I met Fred at Lounge Ax. I wasn't a fan of Trenchmouth, so that's not why we would have become friends. He would do these outlandish karaoke nights and would host them in character and do impressions of the people who sang. He once showed up as Hitler, which didn't go over so well with Sue.

Sue Miller: Actually, he was dressed like Jesus and Hitler. One time he was a hipster Wicker Park girl. Fred was also my assistant when Mark [Greenberg, former Lounge Ax booker and member of the Coctails] was on tour, and when Fred was around I never got anything done. I think he started honing his characters on our phone. He would lie to everybody. He would tell people that Mark was working as a mime at Great America.

ON TO COMEDY

Trenchmouth broke up in 1996. Two years later Armisen married musician Sally Timms of the Mekons; they divorced in 2004. He formed a salsa band, Fred Armisen y Su Mensaje de Caracas, drummed for Blue Man Group and began to make funny videos.

Armisen: Sally ... showed me an ad in the newspaper for the Blue Man Group, which was looking for drummers, and that became my first regular paycheck. I was paid \$100 a show and I learned so much about audience reaction.

Jeff Quay, Chicago music director for Blue Man Group: Fred was kind of an unrefined drummer, but at that point we were unrefined and looking for kind of self-taught punk drummers. He stayed about a year, which is when Blue Man started getting more professional.

Armisen: I took one or two [improv classes] at Second City, but I didn't like it, and the truth is, I don't think I'm that good at it. I went out and bought a video camera instead, and that was the turning point. Sally and I were going to South by Southwest [music festival and conference in Austin, Texas] and I don't know if I was still frustrated about Trenchmouth, but I saw that they had these seminars on, like, how to make it in the biz. And I thought, "You can't have a seminar on something like that!" So I tried all this man-on-the-street stuff and did this video ["Fred Armisen's Guide to Music and SXSW"]. ... Those videos led to me doing pieces for HBO. Which led to "SNL." I'm still amazed how it worked.

'Idol' sounds off

The current "American Idol" team will maintain its softer and gentler approach for Season 11, unless you mention any other singing competition shows—especially NBC upstart "The Voice." Host Ryan Seacrest and judges Jennifer Lopez, Randy Jackson and Steven Tyler will be back at it when "Idol" returns at 7 p.m. Wednesday (Savannah, Ga., auditions) and Thursday (Pittsburgh), and after the NFC championship game Sunday (San Diego). **MCT, REDEYE**

"Leona Lewis was a one-and-a-half hit star for 10 minutes, but there's no Kelly Clarksons, Carrie Underwoods, Jennifer Hudsons—they are real stars and none of these other shows are producing these."

—"Idol" executive producer **Ken Warwick**, dissing the winner on the British version of "The X Factor"

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—**Mike Darnell**, Fox's head of reality TV, about "Idol"



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music

BRIGHTON, MA

SOUND

On its just-released "Billboard Sun" EP, the indie-rock quintet channels the ragged glory of the Walkmen, veering between loosely anthemic rockers ("New Underground") and more introspective turns such as the bruised "V-Day."

NEED TO KNOW

The band has opened for Spoon, The Arcade Fire and the Walkmen, and its music has been featured on an array of TV shows, including "Community" and "Gossip Girl." In December, Brighton's song "Good Kind of Crazy" appeared in a holiday ad for Jack Daniels. The group recently finished basic tracking for its next, still-untitled full-length album, which it hopes to release this spring.

INTERVIEWED

Matt Kerstein, 30, Ukrainian Village

Rock ready

Brighton, MA knows their whiskey—but they're a bit fuzzy on geography

CHI-TUNES

Andy Downing

» [metromix
@tribune.com](http://metromix.tribune.com)

It seems like there's a lot of action surrounding the band now after a long stretch of inactivity.

That's definitely the case. I guess

you'd call it growing pains. We switched up a couple key band members ... and it took a long time for this new lineup to come into its own. We also had a lot of recordings we went back and changed up. There was generally just a lot of fidgeting with things.

Did you have to have one of those "Rocky"-style musical training montages to prepare yourselves for this return?

[Laughs.] Something like that. But we have a lot of those, so it's not really anything special.

Jack Daniels featured "Good Kind of Crazy" in a recent advertisement. I'm guessing you guys aren't strangers to their product.

Oh yeah. It would have been a little hypocritical for us to be like, "Oh, we're not doing a whiskey ad." We all drink a lot of

whiskey—or at least have it in our lives—so we definitely weren't opposed to doing an ad. It wasn't like that "Brady Bunch" episode where they were going to do that ad campaign but first they were like, "Well, we don't use that dish detergent, so we have to see if it works before we can sign up for the ad." We know it works.

Did you happen to catch the Twitter dustup between Avalanches and Justin Vernon of Bon Iver about the ad he did for Bushmills Irish Whiskey?

Dude, someone totally sent that to us and they were like, "You guys totally have



Brighton, MA*Dastardly, Santah*

8 p.m. Thursday, Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave

something in common with Bon Iver." You're always going to have people who think you shouldn't be a part of something like that, but I think times are changing. The bottom line for us is we want to be making records and they cost money.

Oh, no doubt. Your music has also appeared on "Community," "Gossip Girl" and "One Tree Hill." But if you could choose any program to have a song appear on what would it be?

A buddy of ours, Nathan Xander, got a tune on "Eastbound & Down," and I was kind of jealous of that. That's one show I would love to be on.

Brighton, MA is named for your childhood hometown. What's your fondest memory of growing up there?

I was born there and I lived there till I was 6 or 7, then we moved to the next town over. Our family was close friends with the family

upstairs, and I have really good memories of roaming the neighborhood with our upstairs friends, like a little kid gang just running around the neighborhood causing trouble.

Have you ever been back to play a show in Brighton as Brighton, MA?

We haven't played there as Brighton, MA. Last time we played there was we were at the Middle East in Cambridge. But one of the clubs there just got reopened as Brighton Music Hall, so I'm hoping we get to play there soon.

With a name like Brighton, MA, I'm wondering how you are with geography in general. I'm OK.

Could you name all the state capitals?

Probably at one time I could have, but no.

Then why lie and say you're "OK" with geography?

[Laughs.] I thought maybe I could fake my way through. Maybe you and I just have a different standard. So I guess by your standards, no, I'm not very good with geography.

ANDY DOWNING IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

MATT KERSTEIN PERSONALITY TEST

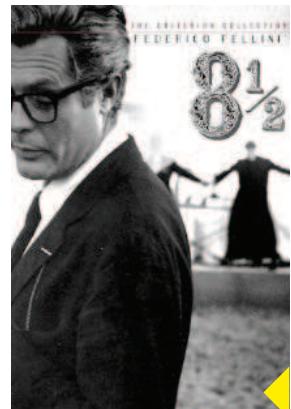
What's the last album you bought?

Young Jesus' new one at their CD release show.



Song you've listened to on repeat recently?

"Positively 4th Street" by Bob Dylan



Chicago's best music venue?

Man, that's tough. I guess you'd have to go with Metro.

Favorite movie ever?

My favorite movie ever would have to be "8 1/2."

Song you never want to hear again?

One of those Adele songs I've been hearing nonstop. I can't think of the name right now.

Best concert you've seen in the past year?

The Conor Redig memorial show at the Hideout.

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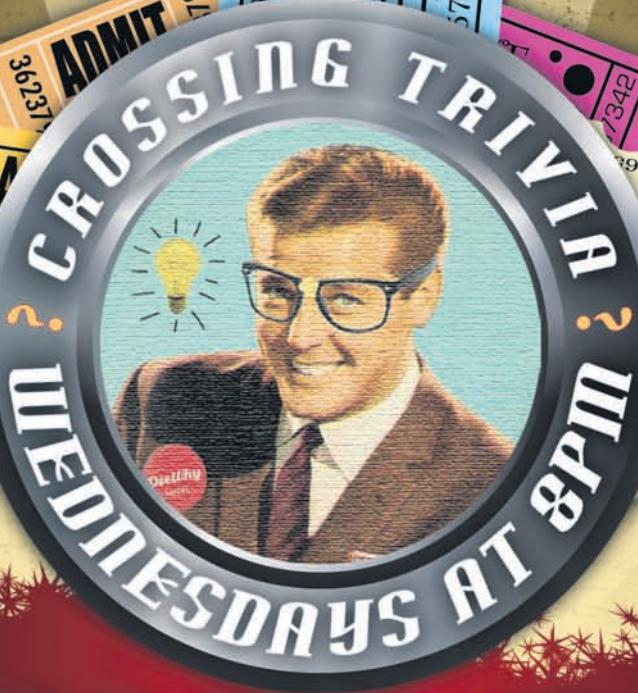
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THREE TO PLAY

BY RYAN SMITH | FOR REDEYE

**Quarrel Deluxe** \$2.99 for iPhone/iPad

!!! A lot of mashups in popular media simply don't work ("Aliens vs. Predator" anyone?), so it's surprising that a game that fuses the classic board games Risk and Scrabble seems like such a natural fit. That's exactly the case with "Quarrel"—in which players conquer the enemy not by lucky die rolls but by spelling out the highest scoring word possible with letter tiles. "Quarrel" sorely lacks a multiplayer component, but the rest of the game is so addictive, Alec Baldwin might get kicked off another plane if he discovers it.

**All Zombies Must Die** \$9.99 for Xbox Live, PlayStation Network, PC

!!!! We're beginning to feel zombie games are the ones that need to die. Just about the only thing "All Zombies Must Die" has going for it is the four-player cooperative mode. Everything else about it screams "made in 1992"—and not in a good way. The action is highly repetitive, the dialogue is laughable, and the zombie swarms can easily trap you—leading to frustratingly cheap deaths. You can find literally dozens of better games to satisfy your urge to hunt undead brain munchers.

**Infinity Blade II** \$6.99 for iPhone/iPad

!!!! The graphics of this fantasy hack-and-slash title are so detailed and visually striking, your Xbox or PlayStation might

be sweating a little bit out of nervousness. But as for the rest of the game, it's tempting to call it "Infinity Bland II." You don't actually control your character; instead you follow along a predetermined path. Combat consists of tapping the screen to slice with swords or to dodge attacks, making this game closer to "Mike Tyson's Punch Out" than "Skyrim."

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IN RELATED NEWS...

OK, this is actually only marginally related. According to a potentially shady anonymous source, Katy Perry's parents would like her to date Tim Tebow, OK magazine reports, calling him "the perfect guy" for her. Well, he probably does have a bit of time on his hands now ...

Fakin' it

COMING SOON TO A 'SIMS' WORLD NEAR YOU: KATY PERRY

By Dana Moran | REDEYE

Katy Perry's firework bra is about to become even more unrealistic. **THR.com** reports the singer has signed a deal with Electronic Arts to collaborate with its "Sims" series, including clothing, hairstyles, furniture and props within the game. Are these two a match made in virtual heaven or what? It's been awhile since we jumped into the "Sims" world, but we did some brainstorming ahead of the March release of the new title to see what might be in store for gamers. **DAMORAN@TRIBUNE.COM | @REDEYEDANA**



'LAST FRIDAY NIGHT (T.G.I.F.)' PARTY HOUSE

A trashed bedroom is definitely the right touch to complete your newest mansion, but your teen Sims' parents probably won't be too pleased with the heaping piles of booze bottles and broken retainers strewn around the house. Blame it on Darren Criss.



RUSSELL BRAND

What's more fun than speculating about Katy and Russell's divorce via *Us Weekly*? Re-creating it yourself, complete with flowerpot flinging, fit-throwing and finding the hairy Brit in bed with another Sim. He won't get away so easily this time.

TOUR BUS

Creating your own concert definitely should be a feature of the game, but we'd also like to see Sims spinning their wheels around town in a massive land yacht. If we could get something shaped like an ice cream cone, that'd be a major plus, but we won't be picky.



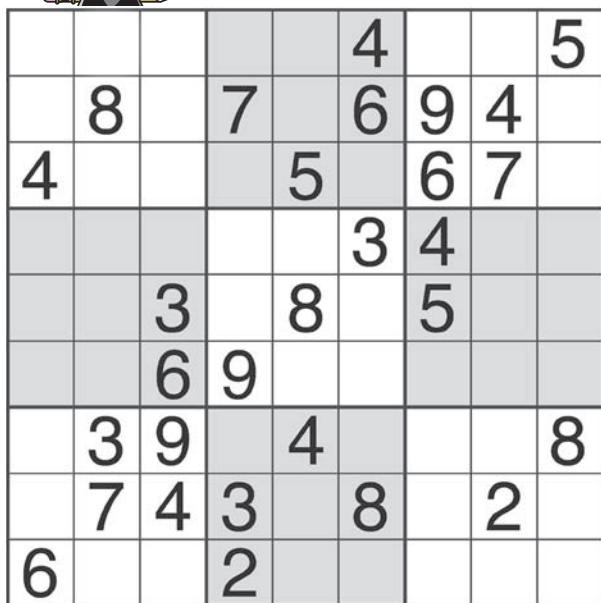
ELMO

Yes, we know, the contracts involved here would be ridiculous, but after that one time when Katy's boobs got her song with Elmo kicked off TV and subsequently mocked with a live-action "Simpsons" segment, this combination could be a teenage dream come true. Plus, haven't you always wanted to be Big Bird?

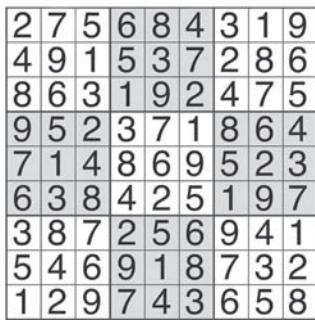
WIG SHOP

Cotton-candy pink! Smurf blue! Katy's real-life hair colors are definitely fit for a Sim—and really, these people are fake; they shouldn't be going with boring hues like brown and blond in the first place. Next stop: the world's most unrealistic lingerie shop, to find a complementary outfit.





DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆



TUESDAY'S SOLUTIONS



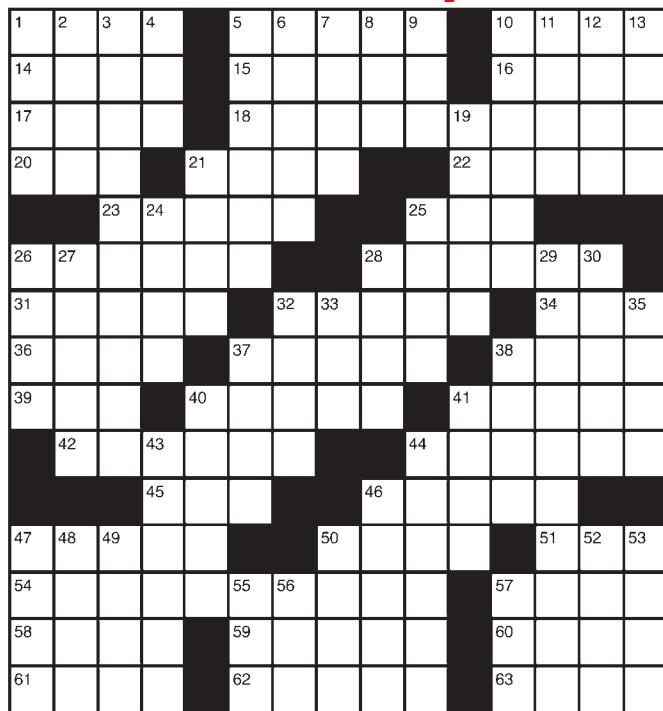
ACROSS

1 Ponzi scheme
5 Long thin piece of leather
10 Turn over
14 Walkway
15 Tranquillity
16 Actress Russo
17 " _ old cowhand from the Rio..."
18 Live through; undergo
20 Singer Tillis
21 Small fly
22 Of the nose
23 Overlays with a coat of gold
25 Inquire
26 Brother's girls
28 Gala event
31 Illegal burning
32 Self-reproach
34 Curved bone
36 Concited
37 Floating masses of ice
38 Deep mud
39 And so forth: abbr.
40 William & Sean
41 Ponchos
42 Chaperone
44 Constructs
45 Attila the
46 "Rigoletto" composer
47 Incite
50 TV's "Let's Make a _"
51 Signal to an actor
54 Scent-following dog
57 Tams & berets
58 The Beach _; musicians
59 Excessive
60 Perched upon
61 Go back & forth
62 _ down; rinsed
63 Refuse to admit

DOWN

1 Slender
2 Arrived
3 Painkillers
4 Guys
5 Uses up
6 Austin's state
7 Engrossed
8 Highest club
9 _ person; apiece
10 Weirdos
11 Camera's eye
12 Peruvian Indian
13 Orange rind
19 Tiny map in larger map
21 Country singer
24 Computer image
25 Feels sick
26 Church section
27 Furious
28 Desert fruits
29 Print in _; provide
three copies of
30 Televised
32 Polite man
33 Fancy vase
35 Mrs. Truman
37 Swiss capital
38 Housekeeper
40 Sixteen ounces
41 Ringlet
43 Finicky

44 Like a sparkling
evening bag
46 Trial location
47 Recedes
48 Shine
49 Spanish painter
50 Failures
52 Come _; find
53 Catch sight of
55 "Say what?"
56 Yoko _
57 Rogue



TODAY IN THE YEAR ...

1912: English explorer Robert F. Scott and his expedition reached the South Pole, only to discover that Roald Amundsen had beaten them to it. (Scott and his party perished during the return trip.)
2005: The world's largest commercial jet, an Airbus A380 that can carry 800 passengers, was unveiled in Toulouse, France.

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TUESDAY FEBRUARY 14
VALENTINE'S DAY PUNK ROCK DANCE
WANTON LOOKS • SIDERUNNERS
DEMERITS • THE SONNETS • THE LARROQUETTES

SATURDAY MARCH 3
JEROME HOLLOWAY • NATALIE OLIVERI • ESH

FRIDAY MARCH 30
J. RODDY WALSTON & THE BUSINESS
THE FEATURES

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 19 • 9PM
2012 SNOW'D IN MUSIC FEST
GEMINI CLUB • TEAM BAYSIDE HIGH
TECH IN MOTION IV with GHOSTHOUSE, BOUTROS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20 • 9PM
RED JR. • PLATFORM 29 • THE ASSEMBLY
UP OFF DOWN • DJ DIHTY DIHTY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21 • 9PM • FREE SHOW
SOUL SUMMIT PRESENTS
SOUL SUMMIT TWO YEAR ANNIVERSARY
with DJs DAVE MATA, DUKE GRIP, SLOPPY WHITE
special guests MEATY OGRE, DREAS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22 • 8PM • DIRTROOM SHOW
JUNGLE OF CITIES • BRANDON HARROD
ROB SCALLION • MIKE MURAWSKI

TUES. 1/24 IN THE DIRTROOM: MAKE A MOGUL PRESENTS:
JAHZEL • PHENOMENAL 1
WED. 1/25 IN THE DIRTROOM: MAKE A MOGUL PRESENTS:
I CAN HEAR MYSELF LEVITATE • THE STATIC AGE
THUR. 1/26: NEVER LEAVE CHICAGO • WARHELLRIDE

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TYLER FURLAN PHOTO

Chicago, wedding city

Save the date! Chicago is going to have a celebrity wedding on its hands in the near future. Jennifer Hudson, who appeared on ABC7's "Windy City Live" on Tuesday to promote her new book, "I Got This," confirmed her wedding to David Otunga will take place here. "It will be here in Chicago! That's all you get," Hudson said, referring to details about her wedding.



LIZ TAYLOR FACEOFF?

According to Access Hollywood, there are rumors going around that Lifetime is set to cast Lindsay Lohan to play Hollywood legend Elizabeth Taylor in Lifetime's "Liz and Dick." However, she's not the only one being considered for the role. "I've been talking to Lindsay Lohan directly, and with her reps, and have been in conversations with other actresses, including Megan Fox," the movie's producer, Larry Thompson, told E! Oh snap! GETTY IMAGES

13.9 million

The average number of viewers who tuned in to Betty White's 90th birthday special Monday on NBC.

Feb. 14

Date "Cougar Town," starring Courteney Cox, returns to ABC. It will take the 7:30 p.m. time slot of the canceled "Work It."

11

That's how many BAFTA Awards nominations "Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy" received, the most the British movie has gotten this season.

Sean goes 'Park'in'

"Just Jack" is back! Sean Hayes (left), former star of "Will and Grace," will guest star on an upcoming "Parks and Recreation" episode, The Hollywood Reporter says. Hayes will play a character known as "the Matt Lauer of Indianapolis." We're guessing his new character will probably not share Jack's affection for Cher and musical theater, but you never know.

“I will never use a substitute for butter. Margarine is one molecule away from eating plastic.

—Paula Deen, to [parade.com](#), on the staple of her recipes. Deen recently confirmed she has Type 2 Diabetes.

